

UTAH PUBLIC FIRE EDUCATOR

UTAH STATE FIRE MARSHAL

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, THE STATE OF UTAH IS COMMITTED TO ENSURING THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF ALL THOSE LIVING IN AND VISITING OUR STATE;

AND WHEREAS, FIRE IS A SERIOUS PUBLIC SAFETY CONCERN BOTH LOCALLY AND NATIONALLY, AND HOMES ARE THE LOCATIONS WHERE PEOPLE ARE AT GREATEST RISK FROM FIRE;

AND WHEREAS, COOKING IS THE LEADING CAUSE OF HOME FIRES IN UTAH AND COOKING, CANDLES, HEATING EQUIPMENT AND SMOKING ARE LEADING CAUSES OF HOME FIRE INJURIES AND DEATHS;

AND WHEREAS, UTAH'S RESIDENTS ARE RESPONSIVE TO PUBLIC EDUCATION MEASURES AND ARE ABLE TO TAKE PERSONAL STEPS TO INCREASE THEIR SAFETY FROM FIRE, ESPECIALLY IN THEIR HOMES;

AND WHEREAS, THE 2008 FIRE PREVENTION WEEK THEME, "IT'S FIRE PREVENTION WEEK – PREVENT HOME FIRES!" EFFECTIVELY SERVES TO REMIND US ALL OF THE SIMPLE ACTIONS WE CAN TAKE TO STAY SAFER FROM FIRE.

THEREFORE, I, JON HUNSTMAN JR., GOVERNOR OF UTAH, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM OCTOBER 5-11, 2008 AS FIRE PREVENTION WEEK THROUGHOUT THIS STATE, AND I URGE ALL THE PEOPLE OF UTAH TO PROTECT THEIR HOMES AND FAMILIES BY HEEDING THE IMPORTANT SAFETY MESSAGES OF FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2008, AND TO SUPPORT THE MANY PUBLIC SAFETY ACTIVITIES AND EFFORTS OF UTAH'S FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES.

OCTOBER 2008

More Inside

- * Residential Sprinkler Update
- * Prevention and Preparation Material for Kids
- * Free Safety brochures



NFPA CD

Cooking fires is the leading cause of home fires in Utah and a leading cause of fire injury. A change in behavior is one of the most effective ways to prevent these fires and injuries.

Every fire department should have recently received their NFPA quarterly campaign CD, "A Recipe for Keeping Your Community Cooking Safely." It contains a PSA, messages, checklists, and media materials. The kits are addressed to the Fire Chief or Fire Marshal.

UTAH STATE FIRE MARSHAL



View the Newsletter online @
<http://firemarshal.utah.gov/index.html>



RESIDENTIAL SPRINKLER UPDATE

September brought us one big step closer to residential fire

sprinklers in Utah when the ICC passed a resolution to require automatic fire sprinklers in every building. The change will appear in the 2009 IRC to be effective 2011. The resolution to require carbon monoxide alarms in new construction also passed!

Generally, new editions of the code are in effect January 1 of the following year. It is possible for a state to adopt only parts of a code, leaving out the parts they don't like such as sprinklers for all new construction.

Residential fire sprinklers are coming to Utah in the next few years. Fire and Life Safety Educators can focus on showing people that sprinklers are good and they can appreciate a home that is protected by a sprinkler system.

The State of Utah needs a consistent, state-wide approach in sprinkler education. The Fire and Life Safety Educators of Utah need to focus on informing the general public about residential fire sprinklers and how they operate. Other fire service groups need to reach out to the other audiences such as government, home builders and building officials.

To begin our education before the political battle takes center stage we need to work together and get moving.

-Monica Colby, Public Education Specialist, Office of the Fire Marshal

LAYTON'S FIRE CORPS IN THE NEWS

Thanks to a donated ambulance from Layton City, a group of retired firefighters have a new Fire Corps project-and a way to help fellow firefighters. Last month the team cleared the vehicle's interior of its gurney and other ambulance gear to make way for a rehabilitation lounge for on-scene firefighters. The new rehab vehicle will allow for transportation of bottled water, energy bars and medical equipment used to take firefighters' vital signs at the scene of a fire. The work of a Rehab Team is crucial to keeping firefighters healthy and replenished.

Most of this Rehab Team is made up of retired career and volunteer firefighters. According to Layton City's Fire Corps

Volunteer Coordinator, Natalie Tholen, this project has made several retirees feel useful again. "The general response from Fire Corps members has been that of appreciation for putting them to good use again."

Check out the article in the Standard Examiner at:

<http://www.standard.net/live/news/144404/>

Layton Fire Marshal Dean Hunt, Chelsey Short of UT Fire Corps and Layton Fire Corps Volunteer Coordinator Natalie Tholen.

FREE BROCHURES

Association of Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) has recently reprinted three of our most popular, free-of-charge safety brochures: *Helpful Hints for Using Your Clothes Dryer*

Safely and Effectively, *Recipe for Safer Cooking* and *Stay Safe! Top Tips for Using Your Electric Heater Safely*. The heater safety brochure has been updated with more tips and new graphics, and translated into Spanish. AHAM also has a few *Safer Cooking with Capriol* videos (VHS) at a deeply discounted cost.

As a public service and to promote safe use of appliances, AHAM will provide the brochures at no cost. Shipping charges will be added to orders of more than 250. Order brochures online at <http://www.aham.org/ht/d/Store/name/FIRESAFETY/pid/>. Questions? Contact Mary Kelly at 202-872-5955 ext. 325. **Feel free to pass this info. along to colleagues interested in the brochures!**

UTAH STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Contact: Monica Colby
Public Education Specialist
5272 S College Dr. #302
Murray, UT 84123

Tel: 801-264-6360, Mobile: 801-971-0492, Fax: 801-264-6351
E-mail:
monicacolby@utah.gov



View the Newsletter online
at
<http://firemarshal.utah.gov/index.html>



CITIZEN ADVOCATES ASSISTING FIRE DEPARTMENTS IN NON-OPERATIONAL ROLES= MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH THE FIRE SERVICE

EMERGENCY PLANNING FOR KIDS

Sesame Workshop, the nonprofit organization behind Sesame Street, launched *Let's Get Ready! Planning Together for Emergencies* as part of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) National Preparedness Month in September. This bi-lingual (Spanish-English) initiative will help families with young children between the ages of two and five prepare for an emergency with basic information and ways in which they can best respond to an emergency and helps them develop a sense of resilience and self-confidence.



The program was created in collaboration with DHS's *Ready Kids* and the Ad Council's ongoing preparedness effort, which helps parents and teachers educate children about emergencies and how they can help their families prepare. *Let's Get Ready!* was funded by American Greetings, with additional support from The Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation and original funding provided by the Bear Stearns Charitable Foundation. The *Let's Get Ready!* kits will be available to download online at www.sesamestreet.org/ready and www.ready.gov/sesame. In addition PSAs will be produced by Sesame Workshop and distributed through the Ad Council to promote awareness about the importance of planning for emergencies. Finally, the video component will soon be available, free of charge, on iTunes under the *Learning Along with Sesame* TV series.

Let's Get Ready! will provide resources for preparedness and offer strategies to confront emergencies, helping families understand that having a family plan and an emergency kit is useful for responding to any type of disaster. Families will learn that a plan enables them to operate as a unit with the whole family's well-being in mind, even if they're not in the same place. Creating an emergency plan with children and in a community gives everybody a sense of connection, protection, and comfort.

NEW FIRE PREVENTION GAME

The Alaska Division of Fire and Life Safety with funding from two Homeland Security Fire Prevention and Safety Grants have launched a new interactive fire prevention game for kids called *Raven Island*. This game focuses on rural Alaska and is geared for children ages 7 to 11. Through several trials we found that kids and adults of all ages enjoyed playing the game. The game is connected to the highly popular online game called Whyville. Give it a try and let them know what you think. www.raven-island.com

Contact Public Education Coordinator Mahlon Greene of the Alaska Division of Fire & Life Safety Ph. (907) 746-5062 email mahlon.greene@alaska.gov

SUGGESTIONS?

Know of a training or conference? Got ideas to share about curriculum or public fire education? Write: cshort@utah.gov